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NEWS



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HERE'S THE way Virginia Mayo appears in Warner Brothers' soon-to-be musical, "The West Point Story" with Jim Cagney and Gordon MacRae. And for news about another pretty blonde named Mayo, see page 5 of this issue. Both Mayos are much too lovely to be related.

Dave Dexter's
Surface Noise

18 Here's That Man Again!

"It's like this," the man said, turning on his padded stool and tapping his swizzle-stick on the long mahogany plank. "I see 'em come and go. You remember Ace Brigade and his Virginians? Al Katz and his Kittens? Fred Waring when he actually featured a couple of native, unspoiled Pennsylvanians?

"Why, I can go back to the days when Freddy Martin wore a sailor's suit—it was at the Bossert Hotel in Brooklyn and the outfit was known as 'Martin and his Mariners' and they aired clean out to San Diego just as Paul Tremaine and his Lonely Acres gang broadcast from a chop suey joint on Broadway. Irving Aaronson's Commanders? Knew 'em well, Bud. Once roomed with Irv's first fiddle in Cleveland.

"If you wanna get interspective seriously, Bud, I'll lay this on you. I saw Ted Lewis down on one knee blowing a clarinet when he was a punk sideman in New York with Earl Fuller's Jazzbos. And Hank Busse came along later, maybe 1923, playing lead horn with Whiteman. Thank you, sir, just one more and I've gotta run—easy on the ice, now—and where were we? Phil Harris? How! He was teamin' with a slide player name of Lofner—called it the Harris & Lofner orchestra and Phil did right well on the coast with his cornpone humor and curly hair.

"Yep, you're right. Walter Davison did lead the Louisville Loons and Clyde McCoy was featured on cornet. Cab Calloway—you'll remember his early Cotton Club band but did you know that there were three other Calloway bands, too? Blanche, Harriet and Jean Calloway all led orks and even made records, Bud. And whatever happened to that big police dog Horace Heidt always featured in his stage shows? Heidt isn't important but that dog is—or was. He could always get a big hand, and Vince Lopez used another gimmick, running up a small American flag from his piano at the close of the show while his ork played 'My Country 'Tis Of Thee' or something equally as patriotic.

"Yes, thanks, don't mind if I do—one ice cube is plenty—and how 'bout Harry Reser's Eskimos? They sure had a nifty theme song, dogs barking and sleighbells jingling. Sounded great when I was in Florida one winter, lyin' in the hot sand and listening to a Friday Cliquot Club broadcast. Or am I goin' back too far?

"Coon-Sanders, Bernie Cummins, Garber-Davis, the Ipana Troubadours, Isham Jones, Bert Lown, Danny Russo, Boyd Senter and out-west, Earl Burnnett, Anson Weeks, Abe Lyman, Art Hickman and Gus Arnhem, in his later days featuring a big raw kid from Kansas name of Stan Kenton as piano-plunker—sure, Bud, I remember 'em all well. And I often get to thinkin' if the bands of 1950 will be remembered 10, 20, 30 years from now.

"Hey, speaking of that Kenton kid, whatever happened to him?"

CAPITOL NEWS CAPITOL NEWS

Palladium Pacts New DeVol Band



LOOKING TEN years younger with his new hairpiece, Frank DeVol stops a rehearsal to preview his new look with blonde Helen O'Connell, who will be DeVol's featured vocalist when the new DeVol dance band opens at the Hollywood Palladium on Nov. 14 for a five-week run. Miss O'Connell is returning to action following marriage and motherhood.

Whiting, Now a Mother, Starts New Air Series

"Madcap Maggie" Whiting became plain old Mom Whiting on Oct. 10 when she up and presented her husband, Lou Busch, with a king-sized daughter weighing more than nine pounds at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Los Angeles.

Maggie, married secretly to the pianist, conductor and Capitol Records exec last winter, was making records a few days before the arrival of the baby. She was named Deborah Irene Busch. And already, Mag is back in action. Her first assignment was to launch a new series of transcribed radio programs for Armed Forces Radio Service—to be heard all over the world—which feature Whiting as a singer, news commentator and interviewer of Hollywood stars. It's a daily show.

She also is heard regularly on the CBS "Oxydol" show with Frank DeVol's ork, Jack Smith and Dinah Shore. During her maternity period she transcribed her songs in advance on tape—and never missed a broadcast.

Helen O'Connell To Sing; Opening Set For Nov. 14

With Helen O'Connell pact to handle the singing chores with his new dance band, Frank DeVol is rehearsing for a five-week run at the Hollywood Palladium commencing Nov. 14. The engagement, first to be played by DeVol's new dance crew, will follow the current run of Ray Anthony's ork.

Still Keeps CBS Show

"There will be 15 musicians in the band," DeVol said, "including men like Ray Conniff, on trombone; Paul Smith at the piano; Jimmy Pratt, drums, and Jimmy Salkow, trumpet."

Because of his heavy radio schedule, the musicians heard in DeVol's band on the CBS "Oxydol" show with Margaret Whiting, Jack Smith and Dinah Shore are not allowed by the musicians' union to work the Palladium. DeVol, therefore, has been handpicking his Palladium ork from the best of the local 47 membership not tied to radio work.

Helen O'Connell, like DeVol, came out of Ohio a decade ago. First with Larry Funk, then with Jimmy Dorsey's crew, she became established as the most popular—and many thought the most beautiful—oriole with a band. A dozen of her records sold in the millions before she voluntarily retired, in 1943, in favor of marriage and motherhood. Helen also will be featured as vocalist on DeVol's dance records for Capitol.

Polk Set To Sing

DeVol also announced that Gordon Polk and the Dream-Makers, a vocal group, also will sing with his new outfit at the Palladium. The Polk booking came about as a result of the tumult aroused by DeVol's discing of "Dream Awhile," one of the fall season's top sellers.



EIGHT DIXIELAND bands grossed \$12,327 after taxes Oct. 6 at the big Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, marking one of the largest mobs ever to attend a strict musical event at the Shrine. Presented by Frank Bull and Gene Norman, the third annual Dixieland Jubilee missed by some 500 patrons of equaling the 1949 overflow but plans for another, next fall, already are being made.

Sharkey and His Kings of Dixieland flew in from New Orleans to top last month's show and received a warm welcome from the more than 6,000 howling Dixie fanatics. Other clicks included the Firehouse Five Plus Two, Dave Cavanaugh's Curbstone Cops, Ted Vesely's combo, Pete Daily's Chicagoans, Eddie Skrivanek's Sextet From Hunger and Ben Pollack's Pick-A-Rib Boys. The Castle Jazz band from Portland, a hit in '49, flopped this trip.

Nearly 60 musicians joined together to climax the bash with Matty Matlock and Zutty Singleton conducting. The long show was transcribed, moreover, by the State Department for "Voice of America" broadcasts all over the world.

Helen Forrest replaced Art Tatum as the attraction at the new Tiffany Club in Los Angeles, which Julia Lee formally opened on Sept. 1.

Mel Henke, Chicago pianist, and his trio have been playing nightly at the Saddle & Sirloin in Studio City, Cal.

Al Jarvis and wife, Marilyn, still bemoaning the fate of the Phillies in the World Series. They flew back to see the two Yankee Stadium massacres with a gang of Hollywood radio editors.

Pianist-Singer Jerry Marlowe, recently signed to make children's discs for Capitol, spends his nights entertaining at the Kimball at Carl's Sea Air Cafe in Santa Monica.

Frankie Carle bobbed up with a new girl singer, Joan House, to replace Terri Stevens. Change came about last month, in Hollywood, when the pianist and Miss Stevens flared over a number of radio and TV guest shots she was making, some of which, Carle complained, interfered with her job with his band. Both agreed to call off their deal and Carle immediately took on Miss House. Vocal corps now comprises her, Alan Simms and the Sunrise Serenaders.

Vito Musso took his combo to San Francisco for a run at the Blackhawk nitery.

Dick Haymes waxed a radio audition platter, "I Fly Anything," for the ABC web. Show is strictly dramatic.

"Jazz At the Philharmonic" will resume Nov. 13 at the Los Angeles Shrine Aud, where the recent Eckstine-Shearing and Dixie Jubilee concerts proved so successful. Norman Granz, promoter, will feature his usual lineup of bop and no-bop musicians with Ella Fitzgerald a possibility as headliner. It's a one-night deal.

Dimitri Tiomkin will score the film version of "Cyrano de Bergerac" for Stanley Kramer, producer. Music will run for 85 minutes.



SLAVING AWAY, before the cameras at RKO, Janet Leigh this month is performing in her first big screen musical, a Howard Hughes idea—which will also star Tony Martin and Gloria DeHaven—titled "Two Tickets To Broadway." Until now, Janet has friended away her time working in dramatic roles.

Cliffie Stone just moved into his new Toluca Lake home in the San Fernando Valley outside Hollywood, and is still airing his radio and TV shows. Cliffie's "Home-town Jamboree" program was transcribed last month by the Veterans' Administration for 2,400 stations, including many in Alaska, Hawaii and Philippines.

Stardom Neared By Blonde Mary Mayo; She's All Set On Discs And Sinatra's TV Show

A personable little blonde singer whose voice has been featured on hundreds of radio jingles—from Halo shampoo to Van Camp's beans—will make her debut as a recording star this month. Her name is Mary Mayo.

Mary, just 21 and married to a New York musician, Al Ham, sliced her first discs for the Capitol label a few weeks ago in Manhattan after Walter Rivers, Cap talent scout, and George T. Simon, music mag editor, heard her piping in the Four Chicks and Chuck combo.

Featured By Sinatra On TV

"The most exciting girl since Dinah Shore in 1939," Simon barked, pecking out his praise for Metronome magazine. "The next really top vocalist," Rivers gasped, pushing Mary towards a studio.

Now, enter Frank Sinatra. He heard Mary's first two record sides, "I Never Dreamt" and "Just a Wearyin' For You." He was just launching his new CBS television show last month. Frank signed Mary to appear every week.

No naive newcomer to music, Miss Mayo once subbed for Frankie Carle's singer for a week. She chirped in the big Roxy Theater chorus for six weeks. She even toured with the Tex Beneke band. But it was her way with a jingle—radio commercials, to be crude—that caught the ears of Rivers, Simon and a million or two New Yorkers. Hubby Ham started writing arrangements and a new career had been born.

Voice Has Wide Range

Mary's gimmick—and every singer must have one—is throwing her voice an octave higher.

She has a range of three octaves, which is about double the range of most fem thrushes, and she has studied classical music extensively. She therefore crosses a warm and intimate pop style with a clear and legit style peculiar to the longhairs. But it's all very natural for Mary; her father was a tenor with the Met Opera and her mom toured as a concert soprano.

Mary studied ballet at 3, started piano at 5 and became the soloist in her church choir before she got out of the doll stage. From her home in Statesville, N. C., she studied at Juilliard, sang with the Princeton Tigers dance orch and, eventually, won an Arthur Godfrey Talent Scout show in New York.

Strange Twist Revealed

But—and Mary thinks this is ironic—nobody knew or cared that she later was heard on many of Jo Stafford's best-selling records, unbilled and buried in the oblivion of various vocal groups.

The Sinatra TV show, off to a fast start in October, will show Mary on her own. Millions of viewers will watch Mary every week. More millions will hear her records.

Look out, Dinah—and Maggie and Kay and Jo. This blonde is moving in. She can even jingle her way to the top!

Carter To N. Y.

Benny Carter left his Hollywood home in mid-October for New York, where he will meet with bookers and mull the forming of a new band. The "Amazing Man of Music" made the trip by car and is expected back on the west coast late in November.



NEWEST SINGING sensation in the New York area is Mary Mayo, who recorded her first sides last month and also made her video debut on Frank Sinatra's CBS show. Mary has made hundreds of radio jingles; now she's on her own and destined for stardom.

Philharmonic Orch Ready To Tee Off

The 32nd season of the Los Angeles Philharmonic orch will get under way Nov. 16 at the L. A. Philharmonic Auditorium with Alfred Wallenstein conducting. Featured on the first program will be Kirsten Flagstad.

Other soloists dated for appearances with Wallenstein and the big longhair aggregation include the pianists Robert Casadesus, Oscar Levant, Lillian Steuber and William Kapell; singers Ferruccio Tagliavini, Bidu Sayao and Suzanne Danco; violinists Jascha Heifetz, Zino Francescatti, Isaac Stern and Ruggiero Ricci.

Guest conductors during the coming 1950-51 season will be Artur Rodzinski and John Barnett. There will be 18 pairs of Thursday night and Friday afternoon concerts at the auditorium in downtown Los Angeles, it was revealed.

Holiday Hits

'LITTLE CHRISTMAS TREE'

'FROSTY THE SNOWMAN' - Nat Cole

'CHRISTMAS CANDY' - 'SILVER BELLS'

M. Whiting - J. Wakely

'I JUST GO NUTS AT CHRISTMAS'

'YINGLE BELLS' - Yogi Yorgesson

'SONGS OF CHRISTMAS' - Stafford MacRae

'JINGLE BELLS' - 'SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN' - Mercer - Pied Pipers

'CHRISTMAS ISLAND' - 'BLUE CHRISTMAS'

Bob Atcher - Dinning Sisters

'RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER'

- Smiley Burnette

'BLUE CHRISTMAS' - Jan Garber

'CHRISTOPHER ROBIN IS SAYING HIS PRAYERS' - Kay Starr

Available on either 78 or 45 rpm

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'Music Biz Is Missing The Boat'

Robbins Urges Action In Schools

"What we need is a long range public relations program for the music profession—the music publishers will have to contribute both money and effort," Jack Robbins pleaded last month. "Our merchandising methods are ridiculous for a business of our size."



ALTHOUGH HE'S played on the soundtracks of dozens of movies, Buddy Cole has never donned pancake and faced a camera. All that has been changed, however, with Warner Brothers casting Cole for a speaking part in "Lullaby of Broadway" starring Doris Day. Buddy is pictured with his wife, the former Yvonne Cole of the singing King Sisters.

Chi, Minneapolis Next For Starr

Kay Starr is living, this month. She leaps from Las Vegas for a Nov. 2 opening at the Oriental Theater in Chicago and after two weeks, goes into the Hotel Nicollet in Minneapolis for another fortnight, starting Nov. 23. On both jobs she'll command \$2,500 per week.

Peggy Lee East

Peggy Lee skipped to New York after a run in Las Vegas with Dave Barbour's combo and was spotted on several network TV shows in late October. She will be back home in Hollywood this month.



MAX STEINER, long considered one of the topflight composers for motion pictures, makes his debut as a recording artist in Capitol's new Steiner album, featuring the maestro conducting his own themes from films. The themes include "Now, Voyager," "Since You Went Away" and "The Informer." Steiner has won more Academy awards than any other musician.

It's A Long, Long Road For Stan

Stan Kenton's November bookings are proof of how a band has to hustle, these days, to make payrolls.

After closing at the Click in Philadelphia Nov. 4, Kenton's gang hits the one-nighter trail again, hopping to Kentucky, Massachusetts, back to Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia and Ohio—all in November. It's been an exhausting tour, Kenton reports but "a profitable and enjoyable one." In early 1951 he will star another tour from California with his 1951 "Innovations" concert featuring 15 strings. His current tour is strictly for dancers.



Names in the News...



With the success of the American Legion's "White and Blue" stage show assured, after a three-week run in Los Angeles, Marilyn Cleek (at right) will hit the road with the troupe. She's featured as a harp soloist and in the lavish revue, which also spots music by DeRose and a cast of more than 100 performers... Also Gordon MacRae wades through an autograph session during his recent theater run in New York but Gordie has since returned to Hollywood. Is back in his normal whirl of recording sessions, radio broadcasts and motion picture work equally excited, as she fingers her life belt, is Leatrice. She's real gone this month, playing dates in London and the British provinces with drummer, Earl Hyde, and bassist, George Dunn. Nel sailed from Manhattan on the Mauretania, won't be back 'til Christmas... These, then, are the names making news this November.



Kincaid, Old-Timer, Slices Wax Again Theremin Might Boost Band Business, Argues Hoffman, Its Master

Renowned Singer Gets Cap Ticket

By BEEP ROBERTS

Bradley Kincaid, the Kentucky mountain boy who grew up to become one of the all-time immortals of the folk music field, certainly has one distinction.

He was 19 years old when he entered the sixth grade of school!

Later, Kincaid attended college in Chicago, became interested in radio and now—20 years later—he is renowned all over the world. Signed just last month by Capitol to make a series of records, Kincaid's first is "Brush the Dust From That Old Bible."

Burnette, Ritter On Tour

November is the month for touring, no matter what the horoscope may say. Smiley Burnette has wound up another "Durango Kid" movie for Columbia and will be heading east again, while Tex Ritter heads out for Virginia, the Carolinas and Kentucky. On Thanksgiving Day, Tex will sit down to a table loaded with smoked turkey, country ham, mustard greens and candied yams, prepared by his mother's family on their 1,000-acre farm (and loaded with black, mean, snorting Angus cattle). That's in No'th



TENNESSEE ERNIE gets the good word, via a call from Nashville, that he's been invited, again, to star on the "Grand Ole Opry" program. And you know who called him? Kay Starr, who was down there and helped set it for Ernie.

Cal'ina, suh, and Tex can hardly wait to get there.

Jimmy Wakely is back from Korea with Bob Hope, and preaching the great job our boys out there are doing. Jim just sent 100

"pots o' gold" out, object to raise money for needy families.

Ramblin' Jimmie Dolan's TV show on Sundays is rated among the highest for the Sabbath stretch. . . . Eddie Kirk will code and serve his family's Thanksgiving Day dinner, all by himself. . . . Ole Rasmussen and his Cornhuskers will spend the holiday along with the reeds, brass and rhythm is "quite

playing for a big western dance likely to create a million-dollar attraction."

That opinion comes

from Dr. Samuel Hoffman, former dance band fid-

er with young ideas, whose playing of a theremin on numerous motion picture soundtracks has made him one of the most noted musicians in the world.

Invented 17 Years Ago

Tex Williams is hot about the corn on western radio and TV shows. "On our Sunday NBC Western Caravan shows," he says, "we guard against the tired phrases which are more fitted to burlesque western life than to the

"But," the good doc insists,

real thing. I've found that the ob-

vious retort isn't always the best

retort—the way real people of-

the west talk. But I don't go with

which is suitable for all moods

people who say a cowboy

shouldn't sing. And if the produc-

of the show can afford it, I say

his songs will be more effective—

more musical—if accompanied by

a large orchestra. That is simply

and strictly dramatic, or musical

license, and I'm sure that every

one understands that the orches-

tra doesn't have to be on horse-

back with him just because it is

playing accompaniment. If man-

in westerns is considered com-

then I'm all for succotash."

Dr. Hoffman, a New Yorker

who moved to California several

years ago, says that the theremin

is only 17 years old. "A great

Russian scientist invented it," he

said. "But later, the Russians shot

him. And because only one com-

pany here in the United States

ever manufactured theremins, and

opped production, it is extreme-

ly difficult to get hold of one

today. They just aren't available."

Would Like To Have Band

The doc, who first hit the bell when he played for the "Spellbound" soundtrack behind Ingrid Bergman and Gregory Peck, declares there are only three professional theremin players in America. And, he says, "the other two are in the east."

It is Dr. Hoffman's ambition to have a dance band of his own, something like Freddy Martin's, he opines, with a good dance beat and "lots of schmaltz, topped

the theremin both in the en-

sembles and as a solo instru-

ment." He may, eventually, attempt a band like that.

Hard To Keep In Tune

An unorthodox thing both from its appearance and its sound, the theremin is electrically operated. But the player never ever touches it. By changing the position of his hands as they hover over the console, different tones are obtained. "The big trick," the doc confides, "is to perform with perfect intonation. That's the pitfall. A skilled thereminist must master intonation first. Maybe that's why it never became a household necessity like a ukulele."

Dr. Hoffman, also an authority on feet, and correcting foot ailments, has a wide practice in Los Angeles and works hard as an M. D. But come nighttime and he's a musician.

Featured In New Album

His latest recording feat is packaged in a new album, "Peace Of Mind," with Les Baxter's orchestra, a series of recorded music moods not unlike his earlier (and best-selling) "Music Out of the Moon" album for Capitol.

"This is real pretty music," Doc Hoffman says. "We didn't try to get ghostly, nightmare sounds. It gives you an idea of just how the theremin can be used to best advantage—like a legitimate instrument. Maestro Baxter, of course, understands the theremin and its versatility. He knows how to arrange and conduct."

"But I still think the theremin should be featured by a dance orchestra. It would start a whole new trend and maybe put the music business back in business."



EXPERT . . . Dr. Samuel Hoffman, virtuoso of the theremin, demonstrates how one is played.

California Tastes Sharkey's Jazz

California got a brief but sweet taste of the real, magnolia-flavored Dixieland last month when Sharkey and His Kings of Dixieland played for eight straight nights at the Beverly Cavern in Los Angeles following their appearance at the third annual Dixieland Jubilee.

Sharkey, reputed to be the best trumpeter in the South, featured Monk Hazel on drums, doubling hot mellophone; Les Bouchon, clarinet; Charlie Miller, trombone; Jeff Riddick, piano, and Chink Martin, bass.

The Kings have waxed 20 sides for Capitol within the last 12 months, and several have been released throughout Europe as well as in Canada, Mexico and South America. Sharkey, now back again in New Orleans, has been featured nightly at the Famous Door on Bourbon street in the Crescent City's ancient French Quarter for many years.

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HAS ANYBODY stopped to consider that not a single first-class musical program is emanating from New York's TV networks?

Sure, Manhattan's TV menu of drama, comedy and special events is rapidly becoming Grade A. But Hollywood, via a small independent station, at that, is presenting a better musical stanza.

The program is the Don Otis hour on KLAC—not a network station—every Tuesday eve. Otis puts it on right on the bandstand at the Hollywood Palladium, with the Pally band (currently, Ray Anthony) backing him, and the acts, spectacularly. And although his budget allows him to pay only \$100 for a guest shot, Don has had dozens of top names, names as big as they come. Then, too, there is KTLA's "Dixie Show Boat" with Nappy Lamare's ork. Lots of music, good music, there, too.

We're not crowing. We only wonder why Manhattan, with its money, technical facilities, money, array of great talent and money can't equal two tiny west coast stations boasting nothing much more than inventiveness and showmanship.—Dexter.

MEET THE JOCKEY!

ED PENNEY of WFGM in Fitchburg, Mass., skipped from a college classroom to program director in less than a year. But his pride and joy is his own "Penney Serenade" program, beamed two hours daily and sold out with sponsors. Unmarried and just a spry 24, Ed writes humorous fiction for a hobby. You can hear him at 1580 on the dial.



HOLLYWOOD click, during her recent visit on the west coast, was Julia Lee. She's shown as she guested on Don Otis' KLAC video program from the Palladium; Harry James also digs Julia's sly "It Won't Be Long" lyrics. Art Tatum followed Julia at the Tiffany Club.

Nat Cole Back, Opens In N. Y.

Nat (King) Cole and his trio returned from Europe in late October and were to open on Nov. 1 at the Elmhurst Ballroom in Elmhurst, L. I., just outside New York City.

Cole's combo played the Palladium in London and several other European cities during their October trek to Europe.

On Nov. 28, the group will open at the Paramount Theater in New York for three weeks, then the boys wing west in order to be in California for Christmas.

Diz Shows Again

Dizzy Gillespie, forgotten man of 1950, put in two weeks at the Oasis Club in Los Angeles in October following Cab Calloway's run. He fronted a sextet this trip.



FRANKIE Laine In "Collier's"

"It curdles me when anybody squeals 'Oh . . . Frankie!' I don't want to be a crooner. I just try to use my voice as a horn . . . Sometimes I get so confused by the things that have happened that I can hardly think. Many a night before I can get to sleep the whole business jumps around before my eyes and I can't believe it."

HAROLD FIELDS British Music Publisher Via Associated Press

"The Korean war marks probably the first time in history that men have marched off to fight without songs. I think it's largely because war is too grim these days for song. The first World War had dozens of good songs, but there were far less in the last war—'Lili Marlene,' 'Praise The Lord' and 'We'll Hang Out the Washing On the Siegfried Line' were among the three best. Yes, I've seen a few weak efforts this time. One was titled 'Korea Makes Me See Red' and another was 'Katie From Korea.' Someone, probably, will write a vivid ballad linking the United Nations, perhaps based on an incident of the war, and that could be it!"

CAB CALLOWAY In the L. A. Mirror

"There are too many singers these days. Take a look at any juke box. Every record spotlights a singer. Romance used to start on the dance floor—years ago a fella would take his girl on a dance floor and spend the whole evening dancing . . . Platter spinners? They influence the public too much. As long as the deejays control the air, they'll play junk."



JUST ABOUT the biggest sensation of the year, with her phenomenal four-octave range, Yma Sumac is shown with the famous Peruvian composer, Moises Vivanco, and a native Incan instrument which they recently presented to the Hollywood Bowl. Miss Sumac's "Voice Of the Xtabay" album, just released, has aroused more raves than any album in 25 years; she's headed for a Broadway stage show shortly and has also been signed for motion pictures. Yma, in addition to her native "Quechua" language, speaks Spanish, French and Italian. Composer Vivanco composed many of her most-requested songs.

Town House Offering Venuti Band

Joe Venuti is back, leading a small dance crew again, at the swank Town House on Los Angeles' Wilshire Boulevard. The veteran fiddler also has been doing sporadic TV appearances recently; his wife last month helped him make headlines in the papers when she sued for a divorce. It was granted.



DINAH SHORE and Al Jolson are signed and ready to start work in "Stars And Stripes," a big-budget musical with a war theme which the new Wald-Krasna unit at RKO Pictures will undertake this month.

Dinah, mentioned last summer as up for the Julie role in MGM's "Show Boat" musical soon to start, failed to land that plum. But so did a good many other top singers who tested for the part. Jolson, still fresh after his recent trip to Korea, spends most of his time in the nippy fall and winter months at his Palm Springs home, and thus will have to forsake his usual hiatus to work in the Wald-Krasna production. Groucho Marx and Marie Wilson also appear likely for the same film.

Another flicker role goes to a singer, pert little Dorothy Dandridge. She will play the role of an African queen in Sol Lesser's "Tarzan's Peril."

Vic Damone underwent medical treatment last month in Hollywood for severe case of athlete's foot.

Jo Stafford left Capitol after six years and Dinah Shore has switched from Columbia back to her old label, RCA-Victor.

Judy Garland, who received her release from MGM, still is in the east and refusing all TV and nitery offers. The Wm. Morris office, which represents Judy, advises she will next appear in a Broadway show, and that, for the time being, is not available for any other commitments. Nor is Judy interested in films right now. She will hike to Europe soon for a vacation, the Morris spokesman said. Her health is excellent.



RAY ANTHONY: Palladium through Nov. 12.

NAPPY LAMARE: Palladium through Nov. 12.

FRANK DEVOL: Palladium, opening Nov. 14.

PETE DAILY: Royal Room.

RED NICHOLS: Sardi's.

TED VESELY: Beverly Cavern.

BEN POLLACK: Club Bayou.

KID ORY: Mike Lyman's.

TED FIO RITO: Cocoanut Grove.

RUSS MORGAN: Hotel Biltmore.

MARVIN JOHNSON: 1841 Club.

HAPPY JOHNSON: Clover Club.

ZUTTY SINGLETON: Club 47.

MARVIN ASH: Hangover Club.

IMMIE GRIER: Paris Inn.

CLAUDINE CARTIER: Music Box.

JOHNNY DAVID: Burgundy Room.

MATTY MALNECK: Ciro's.

PETE PONTELLI: Figueroa Ballroom.

ERNIE FELICE: Sarnez.



ON HIS FIRST birthday, at the Shamrock Hotel in Houston, Kevin Michael Dennis demonstrates his flutter-kick to his pop, Clark Dennis, who was headlining the Shamrock's floorshow at the time. The youngster actually learned to swim at 7 months. Dad Dennis will pull himself from the pool and open, on Nov. 13 for four weeks, at the luxurious Hotel Mayflower in Washington, D. C. And he's also scheduled to appear on Ed Sullivan's CBS-TV program this month.

Bing, Hope Plan Cowboy Flicks With Hoppy, Roy

Bing Crosby and Bob Hope are gonna make another movie together. But first, they've got a bit of cowpokin' to do—separately.

Crosby will co-star with Hopalong Cassidy (Bill Boyd) in a musical sort of western after first making "Here Comes the Groom," which starts this month. Hope is starting "My Favorite Spy" at the same studio, Paramount. Then he makes a western with Roy Rogers.

husband role. He's now at RKO working in "Two Tickets To Broadway" with Janet Leigh and Gloria DeHaven.

Lena Horne, meanwhile, arrived in Hollywood after her long tour of Europe and is looking for a film musical in which to star. She broke off her contract with Metro last spring and is now freelancing.

Pollack Switches; Little Tea Joins

Paramount also has virtually set Betty Hutton to portray Blossom Seeley, old-time vaude star and wife of Benny Fields, the singer. This production will be based on the career of Miss Seeley, who a generation ago was the Kay Starr of show business. Tony Martin may land the

And in early 1951, the Bingo and Bob will launch "Road To Paris." The sixth of the "road" series of flickers, it is to be produced by Paul Jones, and Dorothy Lamour may get the fem nod.



up rapidly since leaving high school in his home town of Zanesville, O. Sunkel is married, has a 4-month-old daughter whom he regards as a "living doll," and may someday make the networks with his gab and stacks of platters. He's a Danville Dandy who gets mail from all over Illinois.

Hits

'ORANGE COLORED SKY' - Nat Cole - stan Kenton

'A BUSHEL AND A PECK' Margaret Jimmy
'BEYOND THE REEF' - Whiting Wakely

'GOOFUS' - Les Paul

'BONAPARTE'S RETREAT' - Kay Starr

'I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU' - Dean Martin

'I'LL NEVER BE FREE' - Kay Tennessee Starr - Ernie

'ONCE IN A LIFETIME' - Peggy Lee

'THE BEST THING FOR YOU' - M. Whiting

'JING-A-LING, JING-A-LING' - Frank Devol

'AUTUMN LEAVES' - Jo Stafford

All on either 78 or 45 rpm

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Winning TV Tune Pegged



CELEBRATING the selection of "It's Too Late Now" as the winning entry in the recent "Search For a Song" competition sponsored over KTSI, the Los Angeles television station, by Peter Potter, this group poses for a victory shot. Left to right, Potter, Al (Sleepy) Stein, Lou Busch of Capitol Records, Lloyd Ellis, composer of the winning ditty; Benny Wilson, trumpet, and Travis Anderson, bass. At the piano is Glenn Brewton, who teams with Ellis, Wilson and Anderson to form the "Four Deals" combo. Stein, a noted Arizona disc jockey, manages the group. The song will be recorded by Capitol. Ellis, the winner, has never before had a song published.